Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

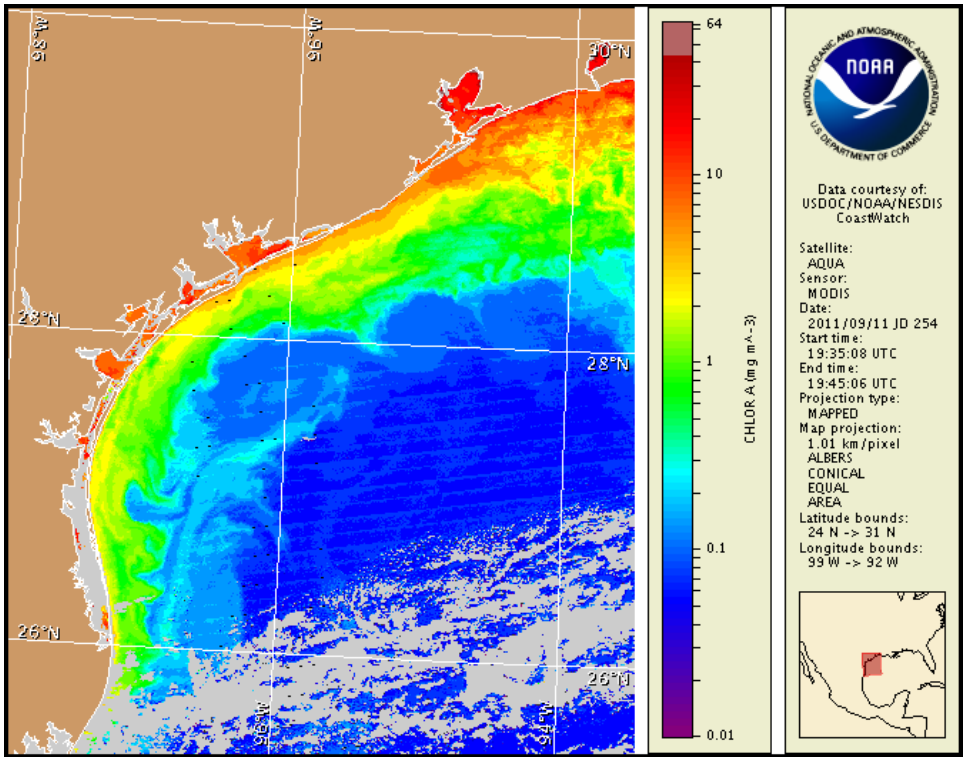
Monday, 12 September 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Tuesday, September 6, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 3 to 8 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Monday, September 19.

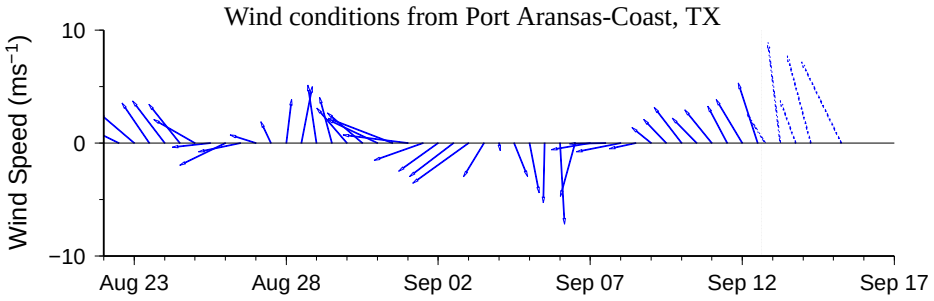
Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom along the coast of Texas. 'Very low a' concentrations of *Karenia brevis* were identified in one sample collected inside Brazos Santiago Pass on 9/10. Stressed gulf menhaden were reported inside Brazos-Santiago Pass, but no reports of discolored water have been received (TPWD; 9/10). *K. brevis* has not been reported elsewhere along the coast of Texas. Recent MODIS imagery (9/11; shown left) is partially obscured by clouds along the coast in this region, limiting analysis; however, elevated chlorophyll (1-4 μg/L) is visible along much of the coast stretching from Pass Cavallo to Brazos Santiago Pass. Elevated to high chlorophyll (3- >10 μg/L) is also visible along- and offshore from Sabine Pass to Pass Cavallo, and patches of very high chlorophyll (>20 μg/L) are visible alongshore between Sabine Pass and Bolivar Roads Pass. Elevated chlorophyll present at the coast is likely due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments and not related to a harmful algal bloom.

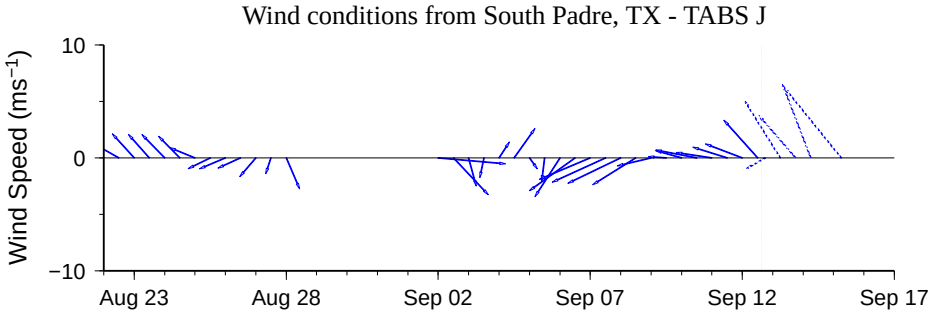
Forecast models indicate a maximum transport of 50km north along the coast from Brazos Santiago Pass from September 10-15, and a maximum transport of 45km north along the coast from Port Aransas from September 11-15.

Derner, Kavanaugh

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html



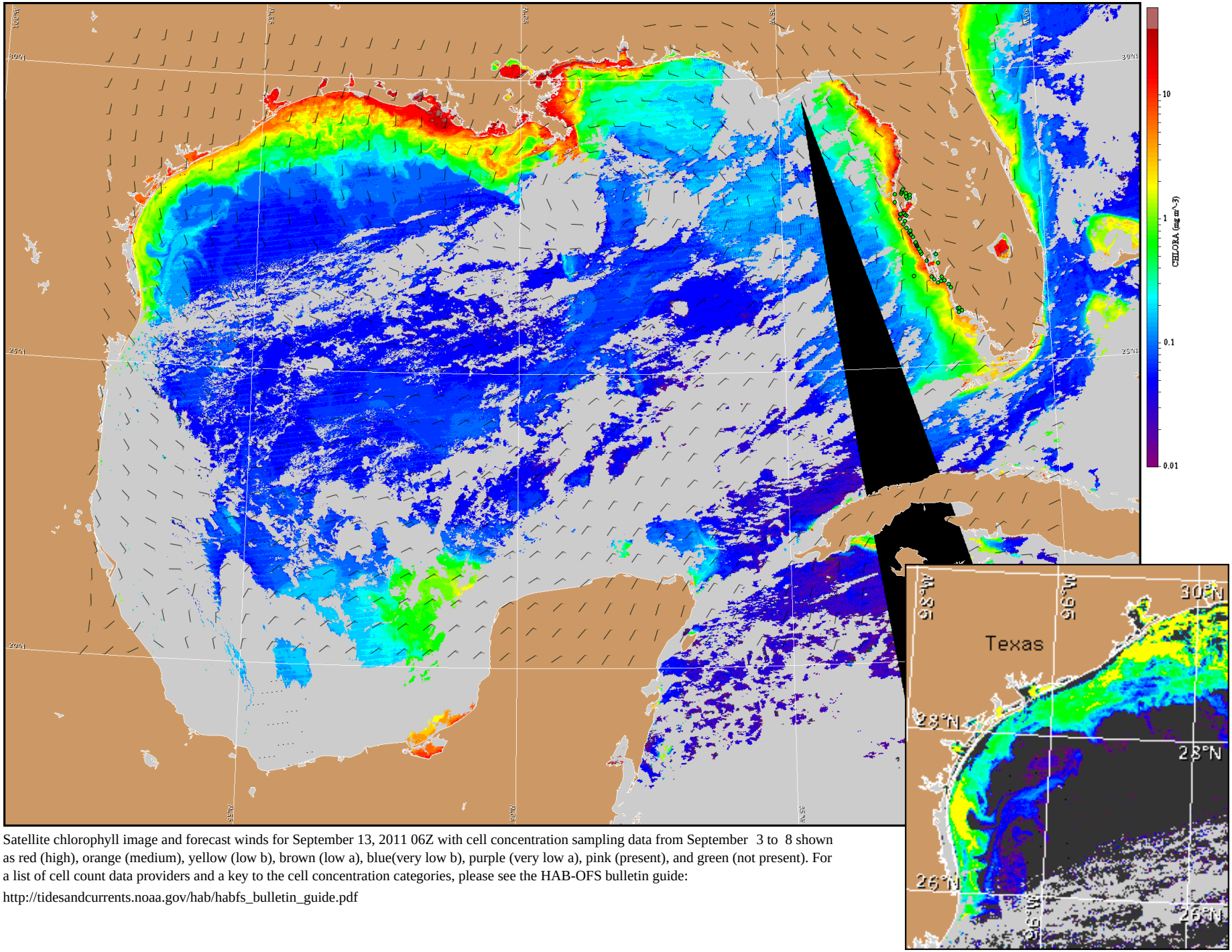
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).



Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: South winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) today becoming southeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) late this afternoon. South winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) tonight through Tuesday. Southeast winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) Wednesday through Friday.

South Padre: East winds (10kn, 5m/s) today. Southeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Tuesday through Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 13, 2011 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 3 to 8 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:
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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).